

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(15)

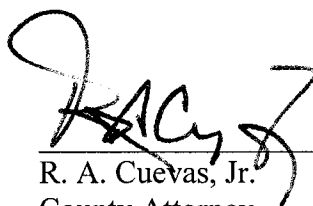
TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 6, 2007

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting the
GMCVB regarding
legislation allowing for local
licensing of tour guides

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/bw




MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 6, 2007

FROM: 
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(15)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- ☐ Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- ☐ No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(15)
11-6-07

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GREATER MIAMI
CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU IN URGING THE
FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION
ALLOWING FOR LOCAL LICENSING OF TOUR GUIDES

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is one of the country's preeminent business and leisure travel destinations; and

WHEREAS, more than 11.6 million visitors stayed at least one night in Miami-Dade County in 2006, according to the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau; and

WHEREAS, these overnight visitors spent approximately \$16.3 billion in direct expenditures; and

WHEREAS, historical and cultural tours are an important part of tourism in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, providing competent and accurate tours is important to visitors' experience in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) believes that licensing is an essential element in ensuring that tour guides are accurate and professional; and

WHEREAS, Florida law currently preempts local governments from licensing or regulating tour guides because state law includes "tour-guide services" under the definition of travel agents and other "sellers of travel"; and

WHEREAS, despite preempting local governments from regulating tour guide operators, the State of Florida does not itself impose any professional or ethical standards on individual tour guides; and

WHEREAS, the cities of New York, New Orleans, Las Vegas, Charleston, South Carolina, Williamsburg, Virginia, and Savannah, Georgia all currently license tour guides; and

WHEREAS, licensing tour guides locally will help to ensure tour guides are accurate, professional, and ethical,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Supports the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau in urging the Florida Legislature to pass legislation allowing for local licensing of tour guides.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of the resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation, and the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the issues identified in section 1 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2008 state legislative package.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro and offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman	
Barbara J. Jordan, Vice-Chairwoman	
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Carlos A. Gimenez	Sally A. Heyman
Joe A. Martinez	Dennis C. Moss
Dorin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of November, 2007. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

JMM

Jess M. McCarty